



# THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
Founded in 1931

## TWO PRESENTATIONS - READ ON

ANAND CHOUDRI, KC2KPG - RARA VICE PRESIDENT

This month (March 1, 2017) we will have two presentations – one on Amateur Radio Emergency Operations and a second on HF Antennas.

John Viggiano will make a presentation on "Effective HF Wire Antennas and How To Feed Them".



In this presentation, several effective, if not fantastic, antennas for High Frequency that are easy to make will be presented. This will include the RARA Coupled Resonator Dual Band antenna for 20m and 15m that was the object of a half-day workshop in the past. I was one of the participants at this antenna construction workshop and was told that I could also add 17m. Forest Shick, WA2MZG was kind enough to help me test it out. If demand warrants it, John will be happy to conduct another construction session. Make sure you let him know during or after his presentation.

He will also briefly touch on baluns and ununs, and answer the question, "Is 75 Ohm RG-11 a good choice for an HF feedline?"

## Two Flavors of Amateur Radio Emergency Operation

Ralph Dutcher, KD2BDZ and Jim DiTucci, N2IXD who are the leaders of Monroe County ARES / RACES organizations will talk to us about these organizations and what it takes to join them.

Emergency service is one of the basics of the Amateur Radio Service and there is sometimes some confusion about ARES, the ARRL arm of emergency services and RACES, the government



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arm of amateur emergency services.

### **Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES)**

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

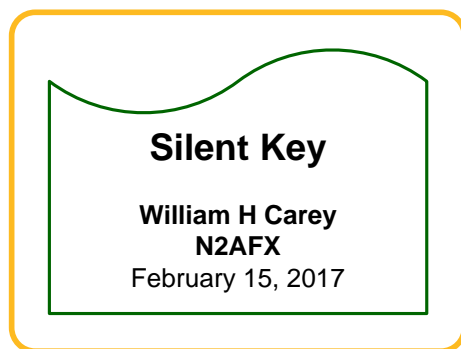
### **ARES Membership Requirements**

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. The possession of emergency powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership.

ARES is activated before, during and after an emergency. Generally, ARES handles all emergency messages, including those between government emergency management officials. RACES, on the other hand, almost never starts before an emergency and is active only during the emergency and during the immediate aftermath if government emergency management offices need communications support. RACES is normally shut down shortly after the emergency has cleared.

Come and learn how Amateur Radio Operators like you can use your radio skills to serve your community.

We will meet on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Boys Scouts Headquarters building located at 2320 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road, Brighton, NY 14623.



# PREZ SEZ

FOREST SHICK, WA2MZG—RARA PRESIDENT

## Hamfest

The venue at Barnard is unavailable this year.

SURPRISE - SURPRISE, Anand, KC2KPG, was able to secure Walnut Hill Farm for **ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2017** on Saturday, June 3rd.

If you have not been carefully studying the 2nd last page of the RAG, let me introduce our 2017 Hamfest Producers:

- Tim Guyot, KB1POP
- Anand Choudri, KC2KPG
- Tim Barrett, K9VB

After securing the hamfest site, their first order of business was to name Tim Guyot as team leader. Excellent start team. I'm sure they will share more details as they become available. Be sure to check the Hamfest page of our web site for all the breaking hamfest news.



## Winterfest

Anand with the help of Frank Schramm and others prepared for and executed our annual Winterfest. It was a perfect day - 64 warm, beautiful degrees in Mendon Ponds Park. Anand provides more details later in the newsletter.

## RADIO - Did Someone Say We Have a Radio

What a novel idea - a radio club with a radio!

After the January and February meetings with discussions about training new hams in the art of operating on HF or any band for that matter, it was obvious something was missing. In February Tim Brown attempted to setup a station in the kitchen area at the BSA, but there was already a meeting in progress. Tim has also refreshed our list of Elmer's - see the web site. So the ground work was laid for a new effort by the club for the membership.

After the February general meeting and board meeting, the board concluded that a radio club needed a radio to support potential activities: training new hams, special events, Boy Scouts, etc.

Here are a few of the activities that the board considered when deciding to purchase a club HF radio:

- Breakout sessions during monthly meetings - for training new hams, demonstrating Amateur Radio to visitors and answering general questions about getting on the air.
- Winterfest - another chance to train individuals or demonstrate Amateur Radio
- Summer Picnic - same as Winterfest
- International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - Special Event Station, demonstrate Amateur Radio to visitors at the Charlotte Lighthouse, community awareness.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>** - RARA General Meeting

7:00 PM at BSA Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>** - RARA Board of Directors

5:30 PM at BSA Headquarters, 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>** - RARA VE Testing

10:00 AM RIT Gleason Hall, Room 9-3139

- RMSC Technology Days
- Field Day
- Demoing Amateur Radio in public locations such as parks or schools
- Demonstrating Amateur Radio to scouts interested in joining our Venture Crew
- Boy Scouts Radio Merit Badge
- Jamboree On The Air - the scout office would like to have a second JOTA station at the office for scouts who are not able to travel to camp
- Special Event Stations
- And more



So what did we purchase?

- Yaesu FT-450D - HF / 50MHz Transceiver
- SP30B - Speaker
- SEC-1235M - 13.8VDC / 30A Power Supply
- DX-OCF Off center fed dipole for 80, 40, 20, 17, 10 & 6 Meters
- 100ft of RG-8X coax

### Links

Here are 2 interesting links that I received from friends - for your viewing enjoyment:

International Distress Signal

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/91565/international-distress-signal-predates-sos>

Space Weather

<http://spaceweather.com/>



# 2017 WINTERFEST

Anand Choudri, KC2KPG

RARA's seventh annual Winterfest was held on Saturday February 18, 2017 at the Stewart Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park. It may have been winter and the groundhog may have said we were going to have another six weeks of bad weather, but it surely didn't feel that way. The sky was clear and the temperature was around 50° F. The fireplace in the lodge provided the little extra warmth that was needed.

We had about 40 people at the Winterfest and several of them brought some tasty crockpot dishes and desserts. Our food selection included Chili, Chicken & Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo, Mac & Cheese, Buffalo Chicken Dip, Navy Chicken Noodle Soup, Southern Mac & Cheese, and Nigerian Red Rice. Desserts included Peanut Butter Cup Cookies, Cranberry Coconut Bars, Cherry Pie and Oreo Pancake Cookies. These were all home-made desserts. We also had a smattering of commercial brand cookies. The Nigerian Red Rice and Oreo Pancake cookies came in after I had already filled up on all the other food, so I didn't get a chance to try them out. I was told that they were delicious. There was enough to feed at least a hundred people.

I would like to thank all those who helped out at the lodge. I didn't have to ask – they just lent a hand. Wouldn't it be nice if some of you volunteered to help out at the 2017 Hamfest? That's Hamfest, not Winterfest.

Several radio rigs were set up; including the club's radio but it didn't look like there was too much activity. But there was plenty of ambient noise in the lodge which may have contributed to the lack of activity.

Some door prizes were given out which included a cooler bag, a mug, a radio related book, and a collapsible whip antenna.

The attendees had a chance to vote for their favorite crockpot dishes and dessert. The votes were close but the Buffalo Chicken Dip won first place by one vote. There was a tie for second place, won by the Chili, Gumbo, and Chicken Noodle Soup. It was a different story for the desserts – the Peanut Butter Cup Cookies won by a wider margin than the crockpot



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**Frank (WB2PYD) or Lisa (K2BGR)**

Lisa Schramm (K2BGR)  
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LSchramm@KW.com  
585.756.3185

Frank Schramm (WB2PYD)  
Realtor  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
Certified Financing Specialist  
FSchramm@KW.com  
585.362.8564

Keller Williams Realty Greater Rochester  
2000 Winton Rd South Building 1-201  
Rochester, NY 14618



dishes, but the total number of votes cast was lower. The Chicken Dip creator will receive 50 membership points, and the second place winners will each receive 30 points. The baker will receive 25 membership points. Will the chefs please identify yourselves so we can credit you with the membership points? Unfortunately, the index cards with the names were thrown out with the tablecloths, hence my inability to name the winners by their names. Don't forget – we now have a new program for membership points. You can use your points for membership renewal or for banquet tickets, and now you can trade in your points for gift certificates from ARRL, Ham Radio Outlet and Universal Radio.

Our next social event will be the Summer picnic on Saturday July 8, 2017 at the West Lodge in Mendon Ponds Park. Unlike at the Winterfest, the club will provide all the food at the picnic. We'll just need a few volunteers to help setup and grill the hot dogs and hamburgers.

## RADIO ASTRONOMY

Marty Pepe

Last month we heard from Jack Gelfand, (K2BMI) on his celestial Radio Astronomy efforts on measuring the (CMB) Cosmic Microwave Background (RARA Rag – Feb 2017). A project, that just a few years ago, would be considered unachievable without having at least a 60 - 100 foot dish in your back yard, and a ton of processing receivers, electronics and computers.

Some hams have had long distance communications with folks via ionospheric bounce, on the far side of the Earth. The ionosphere gets 'charged' via emissions from the Sun. You can listen to radio emissions from Jupiter as it interacts with its moons (Radio Jove).

Students at RIT are designing a Radio Telescope to study the RF signature of Sunspots. Some at the U of R have built a portable, battery operated (Ku band) Radio Telescope (IBT) to teach the principles of radio astronomy to middle and high school students.

These are just some examples of how the fields of radio and astronomy are connected. Some RARA members are also members of ASRAS, the local astronomy club. They've developed a 17 acre site in Ionia, NY with 9 observatories on it. The RIT Solar Radio Telescope is going to be stationed there when completed this year. If you're a member of both groups, I'd like to hear from you. Drop me a note with your potential radio astronomy interests ([mjpsastro@aol.com](mailto:mjpsastro@aol.com)). Not a member, consider joining. They meet at RIT, the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month.

If you're interested, check out some of the links (below).

ASRAS - <http://www.rochesterastronomy.org/>

Why Radio? - <http://www.rochesterastronomy.org/radio-astronomy/why-radio/>

## LICENSE COURSES



Registration is now open for the Spring semester!

RARA is sponsoring licensing courses for Tech, General, and Extra class licenses. The courses will be held at RIT, beginning the first week in March.

The courses are FREE to RARA members, \$15.00 for non-members. The ARRL Ham Radio License Manuals, can be purchased directly from the ARRL for \$29.95 + S/H (<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Licensing-Education-and-Training/>) or RARA members can purchase the book at the discounted price of \$25.00!

If you are not a member join TODAY on-line at [www.rochesterham.org/Membership.htm](http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership.htm)

**Reserve your seat in the class by contacting Frank, [WB2PYD@Gmail.com](mailto:WB2PYD@Gmail.com)**

## DONATION IN MEMORY OF JOHN E LEVIS KB2FXI

RARA would like to thank John M. Levis, N2JDN for his kind donation of \$100 in memory of John E. Levis KB2FXI.

# WESTERN NEW YORK FIRE DISPATCH FREQUENCIES

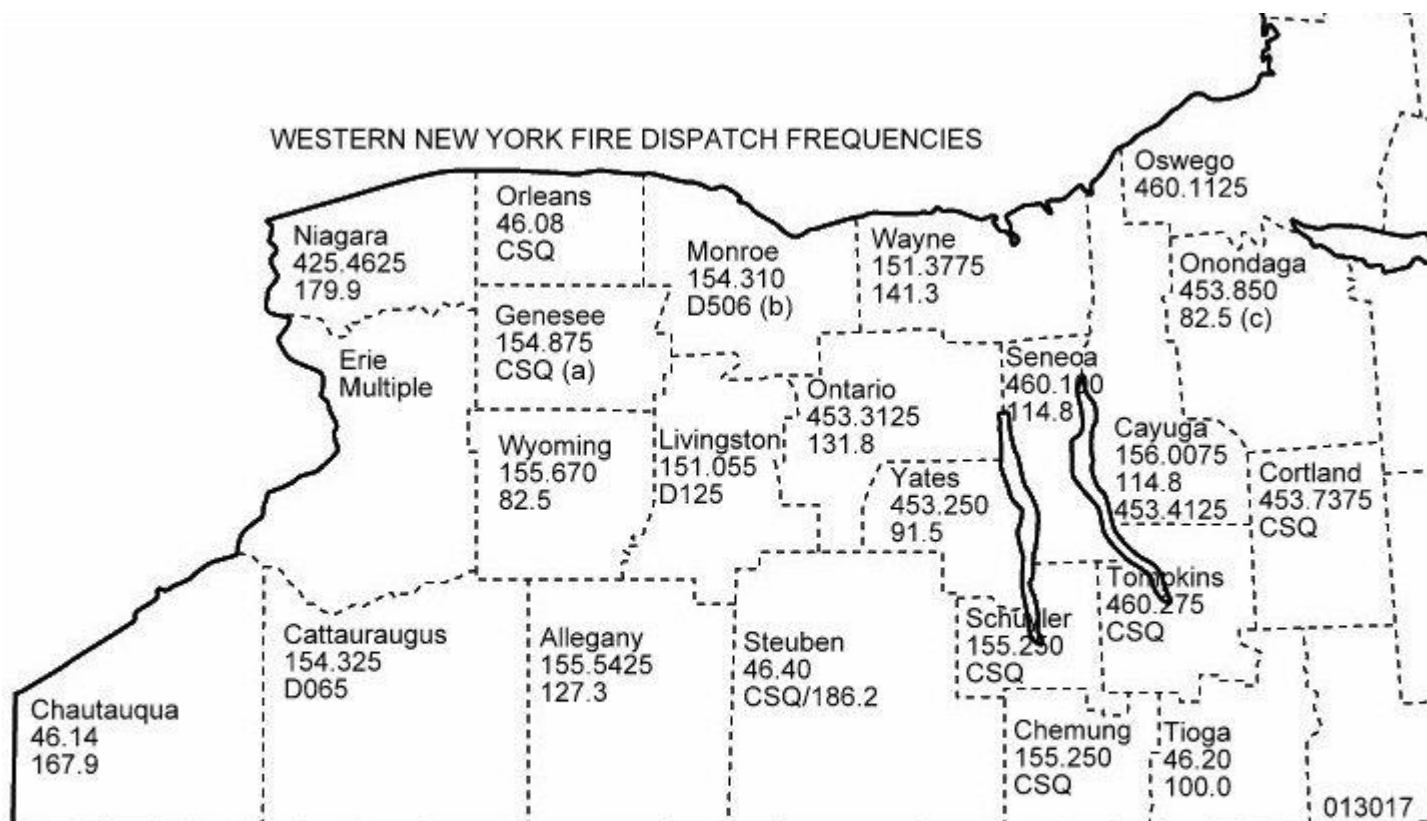
Jim Sutton, N2OPS

It wasn't too long ago that nearly all counties in Western New York were 46.xx for fire with channel two common throughout the state as mutual aid. 46.22 allowed communications between units regardless of what counties were involved.

Today this basic system has given way to a patchwork of various High Band VHF and UHF dispatching frequencies. A few remain on their original 46.xx frequencies. The newer frequencies allow pagers to receive better inside buildings. Some counties removed PL or DPL as they found it caused problems with the pager tones.

Next month's map will look at the actual two way systems in each county. These are anything but the interop that was desired in the upgrade hopes. And a nightmare for some to monitor when assisting with emergency communications.

Hoping in the following months to then take a closer look at each county to review their systems and how to listen them on your scanner.



a. Genesee County Fire experiences interference from Chemung County P25.

b. Rochester Fire 154.130 D131.

c. Syracuse Fire 153.950 82.5..



# RARA RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP – RARA Club Historian



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### MARCH MEETING QRM "On The Web?"

by George F. Lloyd, N2UIO  
Vice President RaRa

Here is something a little different. I have always been curious as to how our telephone systems work. Many curious and interesting things happen when the receiver is picked up and a number is dialed. Ever wonder how all of this works?

Well, here is a chance to find out all about it. At our March meeting, we will be treated to a discussion on Telephony and several other related items. John Woika K8NJV is going to discuss many of the fine points and functions of Telephony. There is a great deal that goes on while using our phone systems. Among the many subjects John will touch on will be QRM on the web, fact or fiction? Also discussed will be a variety of technical reviews such as point to point telephone calls for local calls as well as long distance. Along with information on how long distance are performed will be discussion on how 800 numbers work.

I suspect many of us will find this next item of particular interest. Many of us now have personal computers and have access to the Internet. John will also speak about PC modems. Data transfer rates and modem comparisons such as are two 28.8 kbs modems better than one? Is a 56 kbs modem really faster? These are all questions that will be raised at our March meeting and a great opportunity for us to learn what there is to all of this. I know I have often wondered how all these systems work and I hope you will all share my curiosity and come to the March meeting and listen to what John is going to discuss. See you there!

**SILENT KEY**  
Norman D. Thompson  
WA2CBW  
February 12, 1997

**RaRa MEETING**  
March 7, 1997  
8:00 P.M.  
Henrietta Fire Hall  
3129 East Henrietta Road  
QRM on the Web

**RaRa Amateur Radio License Testing**

Novice - Tech - Tech Plus  
General - Advanced - Extra  
or  
Whatever Elements you need  
to complete a license class.

**Saturday March 15, 1997**  
Registration - 8:30AM  
Testing - 9:00AM

**Social Services Building**  
111 Westfall Rd., Rochester  
Inquires (716) 334-4488

**VE TESTING**  
Join us on Saturday, March 15, 1997 at 111 Westfall Road for new license or to upgrade. Registration starts at 8:30AM. Exams start at 9:00AM

## 20 YEARS AGO, MARCH, 1997

It doesn't seem like a full pledged program on telephones would fulfill the needs of a RARA program where members have come to expect high class offerings on the cutting edge of technology. After all, telephones are a low tech mechanical transducer, a reproducer and a battery. None-the-less, Mr. John Woika, K8NJV, broke the low tech myth with his talk on the newest telephone systems that included telephone modems, terms like 28.8 and 56 kbs, data rates, 800 number processing and more. Meetings at this time were Friday nights, 8:00 p.m., at the Henrietta Fire Hall. Lloyd Caves, writing part III of his 1997 Rochester Hamfest Program announcements, told of new offerings procured for the event. Lloyd reported that Harry Dannals, W2HD, ARRL President Emeritus, Ed Hare, KC1HV of the ARRL Laboratory staff, Bill Thompson, W2MTA, ARRL WNY Section Manager, and Kevin Kedzierski, WA2FKV, from RAWNY are all signed up to give talks. Ed Gable, K2MP, Assistant Director, ARRL Atlantic Division, wrote to announce and compliment Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, for winning the ARRL Cover Plaque award with his winning historical article "Hams Span the Atlantic on Short-waves." With regret it was announced that Norm Thompson, WA2CBW, was a Silent Key. There were no Want Ads in this issue, however Glenwood Sales of Hague Street, Rochester, remained a long term advertiser.

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INCORPORATED

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### History of Rochester Hamfests

Part II - Postwar Years

Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, Club Historian

The first hamfest following the war was held in the main ballroom of the old Powers Hotel. It was a sentimental occasion and brought together many hams who hadn't seen one another for several years. Other locations tried in the late 40's and early 50's included the Leiderskrantz Club on West Main.

One hamfest at the club (it may have been the last one in 1952) will always be remembered for the number of prizes. For over two hours the Prize Committee handed out gifts to everyone in attendance -- not once -- but twice! It was nearly midnight before the affair broke up.

The 1953 event was the last hamfest held in the city with the old Elk's Club as the location. Many unfavorable reports filtered back to the Committee including complaints of stolen hubcaps. A location outside the city was a must.

The Doud Legion Post (Buffalo Road) was the answer in 1954 and was an immediate success. Oliver Read, W1ETI, Editor of "Radio News" was the Guest Speaker and a wire un-tangling contest between phone and CW operators proved a lot of fun.

By the early 60's, the Doud Post was becoming inadequate because attendance was approaching 500. A larger location was necessary and Vince's 50 Acres appeared a logical choice.

1964 was a memorable year for RaRa. We moved into bigtime at the new location on West Henrietta Road and saw attendance approaching 1000. Bill Halligan (W9AC) of Hallcrafters was the Guest Speaker. 1966 found RaRa sponsoring the largest Hamfest in the state and it was only befitting the name be changed to Western New York Hamfest. Soon after (1967) the words "----and VHF Conference" were added.

A change in management and the increasing size of the flea market prompted a move in 1971 to the present location: the Monroe County Fairgrounds. The last significant change occurred in 1975 when "New York State ARRL Convention" was substituted for "Western New York Hamfest and VHF Conference". To most, however, it is still the good old "Rochester Hamfest"! See you May 21.

### WHAT'S NEW WITH OSCAR?

by Eddie Current AKA, W2MPM

Hardly an Amateur today has not at least heard of OSCAR. Fewer may not know that OSCAR stands for Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio. These OSCAR satellites have opened up a whole new world to Amateurs all over the globe through the use of OSCARS 6 and 7. At the March meeting we will discover the present status of A-O-6 and A-O-7 as well as what lies ahead with the schedule launches of OSCARS 8 and 9.

Bob Crumrine, WB2DNN, who is the Area Coordinator for the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), along with Fred Becker, W2GV, an early local OSCAR enthusiast, will present this exciting talk and slide presentation. Bob and Fred will explain how easy it is to work through OSCAR, how to determine when the "bird" is workable in our locality, and what frequencies to use. Exotic usages such as radio location and medical information transmissions will be covered.

All this and more will commence at the regular March 4th meeting, 8 p.m., at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center, 249 Highland Avenue.

Through the efforts of Board member Bob Erskine, W2NVZ, we will also have a two or three minute film that was aired on Channel 10 back in January. This short documentary covered local Amateurs in preparation for the ARRL VHF SS Contest and was excellent PR for Ham radio.



Space became so cramped at Doud Post the head table had to be eliminated. Here we see Linc Cundall (W2LC) presenting Rog Dunham (K2EQK) a trophy.

**More Early Hamfest Photos**  
see page 7

## 40 YEARS AGO, MARCH, 1977

So who is this Oscar chap we're hearing so much about these days? Actually it's not Oscar, but OSCAR, or "Orbiting Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio," and you heard all about it at the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Farm and Home Center, Highland Avenue, Rochester. Experienced OSCAR operators Fred Becker, W2GV, and Bob Crumrine, WB2DNN, spoke on how to set up your station to work through the new A-O-6 and A-O-7 birds. As a bonus for the night, Bob Erskine, W2NVZ, from Channel 10 TV, showed a 3 minute PR tape on local amateurs preparing for the just completed ARRL VHF Contest. Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, co-founder of the Antique Wireless Association, wrote part II of his article "History of the Rochester Hamfests," the postwar years. Ed Valmore, K2EVJ, writing for the Rochester VHF Group, told of their recent meeting results of the January VHF Contests were digested. The club enjoyed a 45% increase in scores over the previous year. WA2SEY was listed as the high scorer for the VHF Group. It was reported that the FCC just initiated free licensing and test fees as well as instant up grades. Nice! There were no Want Ads in this issue, however "JR's" 3327 Lake Avenue, Rochester, seller of Kenwood, Drake, Swan and many other top brands, was a new commercial advertiser.

## VE TEAM

The next **ALWAYS FREE** testing session:

March 18, 2017 (Third Saturday)

Rochester Institute of Technology

Kate Gleason College of Engineering

Gleason School of Engineering, Room 3139

Building 9

Use "J" parking lot

Registration at 9:45AM

Testing begins at 10:00AM

You do not have to preregister.

To avoid giving your SSN go to:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

Register and bring the resultant FRN.

For more info:

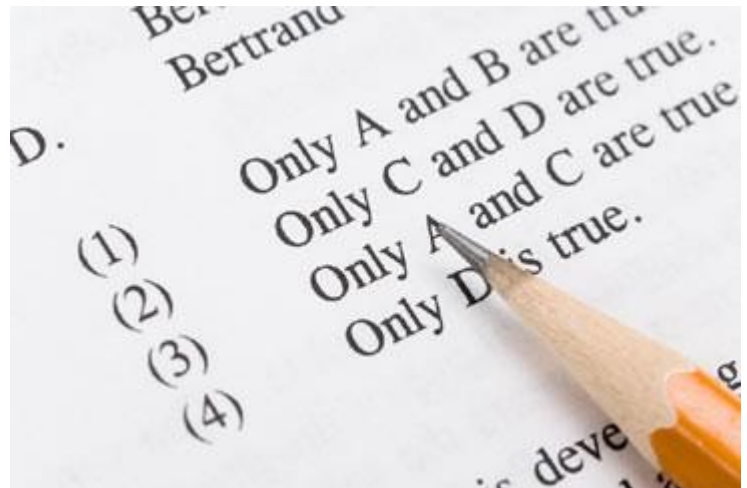
<https://www.laurelvec.com/?team=RARA>

Don Kiser - AC2EV

RARA Board member

VE Team Leader

585-613-1035



Segev Zaretsky, 11, was not only the youngest candidate at our November 2016 VE session, he was also the youngest candidate to receive his ham radio license that day.

Accompanied by his dad, Howard Zaretsky, KD2BMT, Segev showed up, registered for the test, took his Technician exam, and successfully passed and earned his call sign KD2MGO. Bravo!

### January

<b>Ian Steele-Avery</b>	KD2MQL	T
<b>Daniel Shyer</b>	KD2MQM	T
<b>Robert Avery</b>	KD2MQN	T
John Hess	KC2WEX	E
<b>Timothy Cossey</b>	KD2MDW	T

Michael Schue	KD2MMJ	E
Leonard Ippolito	KD2MGK	E
<b>Joseph Russo</b>	KD2MQI	T
<b>Gideon Scott</b>	KD2MQJ	G
<b>Joseph Tripodi</b>	KD2MQK	T

New licensees names are in BOLD

# RARA CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

March 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <b>RaRa Monthly Meeting</b> 7:00pm, BSA HQ, 2320 Brighton Henrietta TL Rd	<b>2</b> <b>RaRa BoD Meeting</b> 5:30pm, BSA HQ, 2320 Brighton Henrietta TL Rd  QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint NRAU 10M Contest	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> ARRL Int. DX Ctest Ukraine RTTY Ctst
<b>5</b> ARRL Int. DX Ctest Ukraine RTTY Ctst DARC 10M Digi Ctst SARL Simulated 40M Emergency Contest	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> QRP Fox Hunt Phone Fray	<b>8</b> <b>SIARC 7.30pm</b>	<b>9</b> QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> RSGB Commonwealth Contest South America 10 M Contest SKCC Sprint OK, ID QSO Pties Tesla HF CW Ctst NA RTTY Sprint Stew Perry Top Band
<b>12</b> AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest RSGB Commonwealth Contest South America 10 M Contest SKCC Sprint OK, WI, ID QSO Pties WAB 3.5MHz SSB Tesla HF CW Ctst NA RTTY Sprint	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> QRP Fox Hunt Phone Fray	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Russian DX Contest VA, LA QSO Parties
<b>19</b> Russian DX Contest VA, LA QSO Parties	<b>20</b> Bucharest Contest	<b>21</b> <b>RDXA 7.30pm</b> QRP Fox Hunt Phone Fray	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> CQ WW WPX Contest SSB
<b>26</b> CQ WW WPX Contest SSB	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> QRP Fox Hunt Phone Fray	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> QRP Fox Hunt NCCC Sprint	<b>31</b>	

Print this calendar and leave it by your radio.

## SAVE THE DATES

**Winterfest** - 2018 - TBD

**Picnic** - Saturday July 8, 2017 - Mendon Ponds Park, West Lodge

**Banquet** - Friday September 22, 2017- Burgundy Basin Inn

# NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

## MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES NEWS

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, March 22, 2017, at 7:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)



### ARES NET:

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 8:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**WEB:** [www.monroecountyemcomm.org](http://www.monroecountyemcomm.org)

### Severe Weather Alerts:

Winter brings severe weather in the form of heavy snow and strong winds. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads)

### NBEMS:

Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2017.

## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION, RRRRA

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA invites you to attend its March 17, 2017 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 PM.

March is a special month because it's RRRRA's Annual Auction. Set up and socialization will start at 7:00 pm. As usual, 10% of the sold value is paid to the Club by the seller. You do not need to be a member to attend but we could use your support by becoming a member. I will ask Ed and Dick if they will again be our auctioneers. Watching them work the auction is always entertaining. Hope to see you at our auction.

The RRRRA officers for 2016 - 2017 are Bob Odell, N2BZX-President, Bob Shewell, N2HJD-Vice President, ED Wilkonski, KC2WM-Secretary, and Bob Smith, NS2B-Treasurer / Membership Chairman.

RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site [www.k2rra.org](http://www.k2rra.org)

## ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group holds monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month between September and June. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and are held at the Spencerport Wesleyan Church, 2653 Nichols St. (NY Route 31) in Spencerport. Visit our website [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) for details.

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.



## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

See website for details.

### XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club will be having their next meeting at 6PM on Thursday March 9, 2016, at the Webster Recreation Center. All are welcome. Details can be found at our website, <http://xarc.us>

Tuesday Feb. 28 at 8PM, there will be a Fusion net on the 145.29 W2XRX repeater (Canadice, NY). The mode will be C4FM digital narrow DN. It will be on Wires-X room #21704. The purpose will be to discuss Fusion news, equipment, Wires-X, tips, etc. Check-ins are encouraged from all CNY/WNY Fusion stations. Initially we would follow-on with a net every 4th Tuesday of the month. More frequent nets could be added if enough interest.

### SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be March 8th. There will be License Exam testing this month. 73's Steve Benton VP SIARC WB2VMR

### AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Town & Country Fire house in Horseheads. C-CARES meets the first Tuesday of the month except February. C-CARES covers the entire area in Chemung , Schuyler and Steuben Counties and everyone is welcome.

ARAST is still planning to meet at the firehouse on the third Thursday .

Don't forget to mark your calendars for next year's hamfest September 30, 2017 located at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads , NY.

Our website is undergoing construction. However I understand that until the re-write is complete, it will still be usable. So go ahead and check out our website at [www.arast.org](http://www.arast.org) .

### COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7pm. Each meeting has a brief training/refreshers period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9pm (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30pm on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in! Take a look at the club website for more info: [www.k2srv.org](http://www.k2srv.org)

### DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communications modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and public [DSTAR hotspots](#) (using the dvrptr board), Yaesu fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR. The last mode is being enjoyed locally through a [DV-Mega-Raspberry PI](#) combination. DCAP meets for breakfast at 7am nearly every Saturday morning at [Rikki's Family Restaurant](#) in Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL of 110.9 Hz.

### WESTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

We hold meetings at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month.

2017 Officers: President - Andrew Magin - KD2AWT, Vice President - Justin Grigg - KC2EQU, Secretary - Julia Thayer - KC1DHE, Treasurer - David Cross - KD2IHK

Website: <http://WestsideAmateurRadio.club>

## INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

Friday, March 3, 7pm: Rochester 2600 - <http://www.rochester2600.com/>

Tuesday, March 7, 7pm: Member Meeting & Presentations & Open House, open to the public

Friday, March 10, 7pm: Wireless Meetup

Saturday, March 18, 12pm to 4pm: Linux Workshop

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: BSidesROC, Rochester's hacker conference, returns to RIT on April 21st and 22nd. You can find out more at <https://www.bsidesroc.com/>. Interested in presenting? The CFP is open until March 17th: <https://www.bsidesroc.com/cfp/>

**Interlock Rochester is open every Tuesday night at 7pm.** We're in the Hungerford Building (1115 East Main Street, Rochester NY), just north of Village Gate. Come to Door #7 (next to Comics Etc) and buzz Suite 200. Want to know more? Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>, contact us at [info@interlockroc.org](mailto:info@interlockroc.org), or find us in [#interlock](#) on Freenode IRC.

## Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association

Email [n3dsp@lafireline.net](mailto:n3dsp@lafireline.net) for details.

## HAMFESTS

Drumlins Hamfest

Saturday April 22, 2017

<http://drumlinsarc.us/hamfest-info/>

Antique Wireless Association Spring Meet

Saturday May 6, 2017

### ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2017

Saturday June 3, 2017

<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/Hamfest.htm>

RAGS Hamfest

Sunday July 9, 2017

Batavia Hamfest

Saturday July 15, 2017

Ithaca Hamfest

Saturday August 5, 2017

<http://tcara-ny.org/hamfest/>

RRRA Hamfest at Barnard

Saturday August 19, 2017

Lancaster Hamfest

Saturday September 9, 2017

Elmira Hamfest

Saturday September 30, 2017



NOTE: Hamfest information is acquired from various sources. If I am unable to locate 2017 hamfest information on your website, then there will be no link on this page. When a link is available please send it to [editor@rochesterham.org](mailto:editor@rochesterham.org)

Thank You

# THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

## THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

<b>CONSIDERATE</b>	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
<b>LOYAL</b>	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
<b>PROGRESSIVE</b>	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
<b>FRIENDLY</b>	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
<b>BALANCED</b>	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
<b>PATRIOTIC</b>	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

## VISIT THE RARA WEBSITE!

Did you know that your club's website ([www.rochesterham.org](http://www.rochesterham.org)) offers these features and more?

- Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- Rochester Hamfest information!
- Online membership & renewal
- Track and redeem your Reward Points
- Public service info & sign-up
- VE testing info
- Back issues of the RAG in PDF
- Officer contact
- List of past presidents
- Online membership directory
- Order RARA logo products
- Useful Internet links
- Ham Radio 101 – tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



# RARA MARKETPLACE

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# RARA OFFICERS

## OFFICERS

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## APRIL RAG DEADLINE

**MARCH 15, 2017**



**RARA meets at 7PM on the  
first **Wednesday** of each  
month; come join us at:**

**Seneca Waterways Council, BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd  
Rochester, New York 14623**

**Get Directions**

### **Rochester Area Repeater Listing**

## **THE RARA RAG**

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